Action plan for enrichment of Indian folk culture

†778. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared any action plan for enrichment of script, folk culture, folk dances and folk art of tribes living in different areas of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Maintenance of monuments by ASI

779. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the condition of several monuments and historical sites being maintained by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) are becoming bad to worst day by day;

(b) if so, whether the ASI has formulated any plans to protect the monuments and historical sites from further damage; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) The centrally protected monuments under Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) are in good state of preservation. Every year conservation programme is drawn for conservation and maintenance of the protected monuments and implemented as per conservation principles in vogue. For selected monuments major repair works are taken up under the special repairs programme depending upon the urgency of the repairs and availability of resources. The routine maintenance of all the monuments is done under the annual repairs programme.

Setting up of public libraries in the country

780. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up public libraries at different locations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) Government is in the process of working out an Implementation Plan for the recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission, which envisage, *inter-alia*, development of modern Libraries across the Country.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.